To the Complaints. A J Kennedy

To the Thurstonland Urban District Council.

Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health for Year ending December 31st, 1913.

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

I beg to submit to you my Annual Report for the Year ending December 31st, 1913, and considering the general prevalence of Infectious Diseases in Thurstonland and the neighbouring townships, we must regard the Report as being very satisfactory.

Population.

The population is about 2,634. This includes the population at Storthes Hall Asylum. The population actually belonging to Thurstonland Township is 906, a slight increase on last year's total.

Births.

There were fifteen Births during the year 1913, eleven males and four females. A patient at Storthes Hall gave birth to one illegitimate child, leaving fourteen births proper to Thurstonland Township. This gives a birth rate of 15·4 per thousand of the actual population.

Deaths.

The number of Deaths which occurred in the district during the year 1913 was 225. Of these, 216 occurred at Storthes Hall, leaving 9 to the actual resident population of the Township. This gives a death rate of 9·9 per thousand.

N.B.—The number of transferable deaths shewn on Table I. is 207. Nine more deaths took place at Storthes Hall, but were not transferable.

The deaths were at the following age periods:—

Under 1 year	1
2 years and under 5 years ..	2
5 years and under 15 years ..	2
25 years and under 45 years ..	2
45 years and under 65 years ..	6
65 years and upwards	5
	18

There were no deaths from suicide.

Infantile Mortality.

One child of three months died from pneumonia.

Causes of Death as Registered.

Phthisis (Pulmonary Tuberculosis) ..	4
Cancer	2
Meningitis	1
Organic Heart Disease..	1
Bronchitis	1
Pneumonia (all forms)..	4
Nephritis and Bright's Disease ..	1
Other defined Diseases	4
	18

Infectious Diseases.

Altogether, during the year 1913, there were notified to me under the Infectious Diseases' Act, viz.:—

Erysipelas	1
Scarlet Fever	2
Enteric Fever..	20
Pulmonary Tuberculosis ..	28
Other forms of Tuberculosis	2
	53

Most of the Enteric Fever, and all the Pulmonary Tuberculosis cases, occurred in Storthes Hall. Eight Enteric Fever cases and two Scarlet Fever cases were removed to Hospital. There were two deaths from Enteric Fever.

Factory and Workshops Act.

(See Table attached.)

Dairies, Cowsheds, and Milkshops Act.

There are 47 Cowsheds registered. They were regularly inspected, and found in excellent condition.

Water Supply.

The Water Supply for Thurstonland Township is most satisfactory. Most of it is now supplied through arrangements made with the Huddersfield Corporation.

Nuisances.—Inspector's Report.

There was no erection of houses in 1913. Two nuisances were abated during the year. A careful inspection of all drains was made and found satisfactory. The drainage at Marsh Hall mentioned in my Report for the year 1912 has been remedied.

The following is a summary of other details:—

Houses	219
Water Closets ..	14
Number of Tubs..	21

The rest are all covered-in Ashpits, and there are no middens.

Slaughter House.

There is only one Slaughter House, which is frequently inspected, and always found satisfactory.

Houses.

There are 219 Houses in the Township. These were all inspected, and the living rooms and bedrooms measured. Generally speaking, they were clean and well kept. House-to-house inspection is carried out regularly, and records are kept by the Sanitary Inspector. Any case which requires special attention is reported to me, and I advise the Sanitary Inspector. There was one case of overcrowding, which has been remedied. Other four houses reported to me as being unsatisfactory were attended to, and are now perfectly habitable.

There is a scarcity of houses at Brockholes. After personal enquiry from two independent sources, I find that there is a demand for cottages. I recommend the Council to proceed to build, and that as a preliminary 24 cottages should be erected.

Storthes Hall.

From an anonymous communication received at the County Hall, Wakefield, several of the milk cows at Storthes Hall were examined and found to be suffering from Tuberculosis. Two of these were slaughtered, and others were kept under observation. It is difficult to say whether any of the cases of Tuberculosis among the patients at Storthes Hall were traceable to the milk from these animals.

Very probably the high death rate among the patients at Storthes Hall is attributable to the fact that they were suffering from Tuberculosis before admission. In fact, in one case in particular, the patient was in an advanced state of Phthisis when admitted.

There was also a very serious outbreak of Swine Fever at Storthes Hall. A very large number of the pigs were slaughtered, and all precautions were taken to prevent the spread of the disease,

General Remarks.

Altogether the health of the Township during the year 1913 was excellent. All Infectious Diseases were promptly dealt with. Influenza was very prevalent in the Township, but no fatal results ensued. In the majority of cases I have been helped very much by the people with whom I had to deal, and they invariably carried out my instructions carefully and expeditiously.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

ALEX. J KENNEDY,

Medical Officer of Health.

Knowle,
Shepley,
near Huddersfield,
February 20th, 1914.

TABLE I.—Vital Statistics of Whole District during 1913 and previous Years.

Year	Population estimated to Middle of each Year.	Births. Nett.		Total Deaths Registered in the District.		Transferable Deaths	Nett Deaths belonging to the District. Under 1 Year of Age		At all Ages.	
		Number	Rate	Number	Rate		Number	Rate per 1,000 Nett Births.	Number	Rate
1908	883	12	13·5	64		59	2	166·6	5	5·6
1909	891	20	22·4	109		97	Nil.	Nil.	12	13·4
1910	897	16	17·8	115		105	4	25·0	10	11·1
1911	2041	20	22·1	173	84·2	160	Nil.	Nil.	13	17·7
1912	2497	19	7·5	161	64·4	133	Nil.	Nil.	28	31·2
1913	2634	15	5·6	225		207	1	66·6	18	18·9

Area of District in Acres .. 2106. Number of Inhabited Houses .. 219.
Total Population .. .. 2634. Average Number of Persons per House 4·1.